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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/729,482	12/04/2000	Mari Horiguchi	7217/63307	5980

7590   12/12/2003

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EXAMINER
LEE, CHRISTOPHER E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2189	

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _31 October 2003_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-7 and 9-13_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-7 and 9-13_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on _31 October 2003_ is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application)
since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet.
37 CFR 1.78.

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific
reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt Acknowledgement

1.   Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendment filed on 31st of October 2003. Claims 1, 3, 6 and 9

have been amended; claims 8 and 14 have been canceled; and no claims have been newly added.

Currently, claims 1-7 and 9-13 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a

prior Office action.

3.   Claims 6, 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Iijima et al. [US

5,942,983 A; hereinafter Iijima'983].

   Referring to claim 6, Iijima'983 discloses an apparatus controlling method (See Abstract) for

performing control between apparatuses (i.e., performing managing control between apparatuses VTR-1

11, VTR-2 12 and CAM-1 13 in Fig. 1) connected to a predetermined bus line (i.e., IEEE 1394 serial bus

14 and 15 in Fig. 1), wherein settings of an output status (i.e., read open status) in a first apparatus (i.e.,

CAM-1 of Fig. 1) are preset (i.e., set to "open" state) by a transmission of a predetermined command (i.e.,

transmitting a "read open" command; See col. 5, lines 28-29) from a second apparatus (i.e., VTR-1 of

Fig. 1) so that audio/video stream data (See col. 2, lines 1-21) outputted from said first apparatus is

received by said second apparatus (See col. 5, lines 40-46), and wherein issuance of said command (i.e.,

issuance of "(3) Read Open" command in Fig. 6) from said second apparatus (i.e., VTR-1) is made by a

direction (i.e., MIC reading and/or writing in Fig. 6) from said first apparatus (i.e., CAM-1).

   Referring to claim 7, Iijima'983 teaches that an identification data (i.e., ID) indicating that said

command has issued (See col. 5, lines 33-36; i.e., wherein that an ID of the first VTR corresponding to

the counter appliance which has sent the read open command anticipates an identification data indicating

that said command has issued) under said direction of said first apparatus (i.e., under the order activated

by the MIC read rejection of said CAM-1) is attached to a predetermined section of said command upon said issuance of said command from said second apparatus under said direction of said first apparatus (i.e., read open command with ID; See col. 5, lines 35-36).

Referring to claim 9, Iijima'983 discloses a transmission device (i.e., electronic appliance 1 of Fig. 5) for controlling (See col. 2, line 32 through col. 3, line 45) audio/video stream data (See col. 2, lines 1-21) transmission with other apparatuses (See col. 4, lines 44-50) connected via a predetermined bus line (i.e., IEEE 1394 serial bus 7 of Fig. 5), comprising: an inputting portion (i.e., communication I/F 6 of Fig. 5) for input of data transmitted via said bus line (See col. 4, lines 24-27), a data processing portion (i.e., D-I/F microcomputer 5 of Fig. 5) for finding (i.e., detecting) from said data inputted by said inputting portion a command (i.e., read or read/write open command) regarding a presetting of settings for input selection (i.e., read/write open) or output selection (i.e., read open) of an audio/video stream data (See col. 2, lines 1-21) transmission (i.e., MIC data transmission) with a specific one of said apparatuses (i.e., VTR-1 of Fig. 1) connected to said bus line (i.e., IEEE 1394 serial bus), and for performing said presetting specified in said command (See col. 4, lines 21-23 and lines 44-54), and a storing portion (i.e., register) for storage of identification data (i.e., ID) unique to said specific one of said apparatuses (i.e., VTR-1) contained in said command detected by said data processing portion (See col. 5, lines 33-36;i.e., wherein that an ID of the first VTR corresponding to the counter appliance which has sent the read open command anticipates that a storing portion for storage of identification data unique to said specific one of said apparatuses contained in said command detected by said data processing portion).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

5.   Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iijima'983 [US 5,942,983 A] in view of Applicant Admitted Prior Art [hereinafter AAPA].

Referring to claim 1, Iijima'983 discloses an apparatus controlling method (See Abstract) for

performing control between apparatuses (i.e., performing managing control between apparatuses VTR-1

11, VTR-2 12 and CAM-1 13 in Fig. 1) connected to a predetermined bus line (i.e., IEEE 1394 serial bus

14 and 15 in Fig. 1), wherein in an audio/video stream data (See col. 2, lines 1-21) transmission between a

first apparatus (i.e., CAM-1 of Fig. 1) and a second apparatus (i.e., VTR-1 of Fig. 1), presetting of

settings for inputting (i.e., read/write open) or outputting (i.e., read open) of said audio/video stream data

(See col. 2, lines 1-21; i.e., MIC data) in said first apparatus (i.e., CAM-1 of Fig. 1) is directed by a

transmission of a command (e.g., read open command; See col. 5, lines 28-29) via said bus line (i.e.,

IEEE 1394 serial bus), wherein an identification data (i.e., ID) unique to said second apparatus (i.e., VTR-

1) is transmitted upon said transmission of said command (See col. 5, lines 30-35; i.e., wherein in fact that

an ID of the first VTR corresponding to the counter appliance which has sent the read open command

implies that an identification data unique to said second apparatus is transmitted upon said transmission of

said command), and wherein said first apparatus (i.e., CAM-1 of Fig. 1) stores said transmitted unique

identification data (See col. 5, lines 33-35) when performing said presetting in accordance with said

command (i.e., accepting "read open" command; See col. 5, lines 30-35).

Iijima'983 does not expressly teach said command (e.g., read open command) is in a predetermined

format.

AAPA discloses an AV apparatus capable of mutually transmitting information via a network provided

by an IEEE1394 serial communication bus (See page 1, lines 10-12), wherein a command is in a

predetermined format (i.e., AV/C command; See page 1, lines 12-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was

made to have applied said predetermined format (i.e., AV/C protocol format), as disclosed by AAPA, to

said command of said apparatus, as disclosed by Iijima'983, so as to control said apparatuses (i.e., AV

apparatuses) connected said predetermined bus line (i.e., IEEE 1394 serial bus) with the advantages in

compliance with the standard, AV/C digital Interface Command Set General Specification (See AAPA, page 1, lines 15-18).

Referring to claim 2, Iijima'983 discloses said first apparatus (i.e., CAM-1 of Fig. 1) disables said preset (See col. 7, lines 25-28; i.e., wherein in fact that the read open state of the first VTR is forcibly closed clearly anticipates said first apparatus disables said preset) once a resetting (i.e., bus resetting operation) is performed in said bus line (See col. 7, lines 24-49).

Iijima'983, as modified by AAPA, does not explicitly show said first apparatus identifies said second apparatus connected to said bus line from said stored identification data.

Nevertheless, as implicitly suggested in Iijima'983 (i.e., in such a case that a command is received from the second VTR and this command may give influences to the data stored in the MIC, the first CAM returns a reject response to the second VTR; See col. 7, lines 43-48), said first apparatus should be able to identify said second apparatus connected to said bus line from said stored identification data because said first apparatus (i.e., the first CAM) returns a reject response to the other (i.e., the second VTR) than said second apparatus (i.e., the first VTR).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included said method step of identification so as to response said rejection to the other than said second apparatus (i.e., VTR-1 of Fig. 1).

And then, Iijima'983 teaches said first apparatus does not perform said presetting (See col. 7, lines 43-49) in response to a directing command (e.g., (9)Read Open command in Fig. 6) transmitted from any other of said apparatuses (i.e., VTR-2 in Fig. 6) than said identified second apparatus (i.e., VTR-1 in Fig. 6).

Referring to claim 3, Iijima'983 discloses said first apparatus (i.e., CAM-1 of Fig. 1) disables said preset (i.e., forcible close) upon a resetting (i.e., bus resetting) performed in said bus line (i.e., IEEE 1394 serial bus; See col. 7, lines 24-28), and maintains said stored identification data for at least a predetermined period (i.e., a predetermined time-out time period) following said resetting (See col. 7,

lines 35-42; i.e., wherein in fact that in such a case that after the first VTR has finally accessed to the MIC, the first CAM is not once accessed even when a predetermined time-out time period has elapsed, when an open command is received from the second VTR, this first CAM returns an accept response to the second VTR, and also forcibly closes the read open state of the first VTR implies that said first apparatus maintains said stored identification data for at least a predetermined period following said resetting).

Iijima'983, as modified by AAPA, does not explicitly show said first apparatus said first apparatus identifies said second apparatus connected to said bus line (i.e., IEEE 1394 serial bus) from said stored identification data during said predetermined period.

Nevertheless, as implicitly suggested in Iijima'983 (i.e., in such a case that a command is received from the second VTR and this command may give influences to the data stored in the MIC, the first CAM returns a reject response to the second VTR; See col. 7, lines 43-48),

said first apparatus said first apparatus identifies said second apparatus connected to said bus line (i.e., IEEE 1394 serial bus) from said stored identification data during said predetermined period because said first apparatus (i.e., the first CAM) returns a reject response to the other (i.e., the second VTR) than said second apparatus (i.e., the first VTR).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included said method step of identification so as to response said rejection to the other than said second apparatus (e.g., VTR-1 of Fig. 1).

Iijima'983 teaches performs said presetting of said settings for inputting or outputting of said data only in response to said command from said identified second apparatus (See col. 7, lines 43-47), and after said predetermined period has been passed (i.e., a predetermined time-out time period has been elapsed), said first apparatus removes said disablement of accepting said preset requesting command from said other apparatuses (See 7, lines 40-42).

Referring to claim 4, Iijima'983 teaches said first apparatus (i.e., CAM-1 of Fig. 1) cancels (i.e., close) said preset in response to a direction for canceling said preset (i.e., "(7)Close" command in Fig. 6) issued by said apparatus which is the issuer of said preset command for the above particular preset, if this particular preset is enabled in said first apparatus (See col. 5, lines 48-52).

6.   Claims 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iijima'983 [US 5,942,983 A] in view of AAPA as applied to claims 1-4, 8 and 14 above, and further in view of Iijima et al. [US 5,689,244 A; hereinafter Iijima'244].

Referring to claim 5, Iijima'983, as modified by AAPA, discloses all the limitations of the claim 5 except that does not teach said first apparatus transmits data for identification of said second apparatus to an issuer of another of said command requesting said presetting of settings in said first apparatus for data transmission with one of said apparatuses other than said second apparatus, if said preset for said second apparatus is enabled in said first apparatus.

Iijima'244 discloses a communication system (See Abstract), wherein a confirmation procedure (i.e., writing confirmation) comprising a first apparatus (i.e., VTR-A in Fig. 11) transmits data for identification (i.e., information γ in Fig. 11) of a second apparatus (i.e., VTR-C in Fig. 11) to an issuer of a command (i.e., lock request (α, β) from VTR-B in Fig. 11) requesting a presetting of settings (i.e., locking) in said first apparatus (i.e., VTR-A) for data transmission with one of apparatuses other than said second apparatus (i.e., VTR-B in Fig. 11), if said preset for said second apparatus is enabled in said first apparatus (i.e., VTR-A has been locked by said presetting (locking) from VTR-C; See col. 11, lines 39-47).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have applied said confirmation procedure, as disclosed by Iijima'244, to said apparatus, as disclosed by Iijima'983, as modified by AAPA, for the advantage of allowing said issuer of another of

said command requesting said presetting of settings in said first apparatus for data transmission (i.e.,

writing party) to confirm the successful presetting (i.e., writing; See Iijima'244, col. 11, lines 32-33).

7.   Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iijima'983 [US

5,942,983 A].

   Referring to claim 10, Iijima'983 discloses said data processing portion (i.e., D-I/F

microcomputer 5 of Fig. 5) disables said preset (See col. 7, lines 25-28; i.e., wherein in fact that the read

open state of the first VTR is forcibly closed clearly anticipates said first apparatus disables said preset)

once a resetting (i.e., bus resetting operation) is performed in said bus line (See col. 7, lines 24-49).

Iijima'983 does not explicitly show said data processing portion identifies said specific one of said

apparatuses from said identification data stored in said storing portion.

Nevertheless, as implicitly suggested in Iijima'983 (i.e., in such a case that a command is received from

the second VTR and this command may give influences to the data stored in the MIC, the first CAM

returns a reject response to the second VTR; See col. 7, lines 43-48), said data processing portion should

be able to identify said second apparatus connected to said bus line from said stored identification data

because said data processing portion of said transmission device (i.e., the first CAM) returns a reject

response to the other than said specific one of said apparatuses (i.e., the first VTR).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to have included said method step of identification so as to response said rejection to the other

than said specific one of said apparatuses (e.g., VTR-1 of Fig. 1).

Iijima'983 teaches said data processing portion does not perform any presetting (See col. 7, lines 43-49)

requested by said command (e.g., (9)Read Open command in Fig. 6) transmitted from any other of said

apparatuses (e.g., VTR-2 in Fig. 6) than said specific one of said apparatuses (e.g., VTR-1).

   Referring to claim 11, Iijima'983 discloses said data processing portion (i.e., D-I/F

microcomputer 5 of Fig. 5) disables said preset (See col. 7, lines 25-28; i.e., wherein in fact that the read

open state of the first VTR is forcibly closed clearly anticipates said first apparatus disables said preset)

once a resetting (i.e., bus resetting operation) is performed in said bus line (See col. 7, lines 24-49).

Iijima'983 does not explicitly show said data processing portion identifies said specific one of said

apparatuses from said identification data stored in said storing portion.

Nevertheless, as implicitly suggested in Iijima'983 (i.e., in such a case that a command is received from

the second VTR and this command may give influences to the data stored in the MIC, the first CAM

returns a reject response to the second VTR; See col. 7, lines 43-48), said data processing portion should

be able to identify said second apparatus connected to said bus line from said stored identification data

because said data processing portion of said transmission device (i.e., the first CAM) returns a reject

response to the other than said specific one of said apparatuses (i.e., the first VTR).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to have included said method step of identification so as to response said rejection to the other

than said specific one of said apparatuses (e.g., VTR-1 of Fig. 1).

Iijima'983 teaches said data processing portion performs said presetting of said settings for inputting or

outputting of said data only in response to said command from the above identified specific apparatus for

at least a predetermined period (See col. 7, lines 43-47), and after said predetermined period having been

passed (i.e., a predetermined time-out time period has been elapsed), performs said presetting in response

to said command from any of said apparatuses including said specific one of said apparatuses (See 7, lines

40-42).

Referring to claim 12, Iijima'983 teaches said data processing portion (i.e., D-I/F microcomputer

5 of Fig. 5) cancels (i.e., close) said preset in response to a command for canceling said preset (i.e.,

"(7)Close" command in Fig. 6) issued from said apparatus which is the issuer of said command regarding

a presetting of settings (See col. 5, lines 48-52).

8.   Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iijima'983 [US 5,942,983 A] as applied to claims 10-12 above, and further in view of Iijima'244 [US 5,689,244 A].

Referring to claim 13, Iijima'983 discloses all the limitations of the claim 13 except that does not teach said data processing portion detects a command regarding a preset from another apparatus when said preset is enabled by another apparatus, and said data processing portion transmits data regarding an apparatus identified from an identification data stored in a storing section to an issuer of said command regarding a presetting of settings.

Iijima'244 discloses a communication system (See Abstract), wherein a confirmation procedure (i.e., writing confirmation) comprising a data processing portion (i.e., VTR-A in Fig. 11) detects a command regarding a preset (i.e., lock request (α, β) in Fig. 11) from an apparatus (i.e., VTR-B in Fig. 11) when said preset is enabled (i.e., VTR-A has been locked by said presetting (locking) from VTR-C), and said data processing portion (i.e., VTR-A) transmits data (i.e., information γ in Fig. 11) regarding an apparatus identified from said identification data stored in said storing section (i.e., VTR-C in Fig. 11) to an issuer of said command (i.e., lock request (α, β) from VTR-B in Fig. 11) regarding a presetting of settings (i.e., locking; See col. 11, lines 39-47).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have applied said confirmation procedure, as disclosed by Iijima'244, to said transmission device, as disclosed by Iijima'983, for the advantage of allowing said issuer of another of said command requesting said presetting of settings in said first apparatus for data transmission (i.e., writing party) to confirm the successful presetting (i.e., writing; See Iijima'244, col. 11, lines 32-33).

Response to Arguments

9.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-7 and 9-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

10.   *In response to the Applicants' argument with respect to* "Iijima'983 fails to show or suggest a

command control of an input/output of audio/video stream data to/from a networked apparatus" on the

Response, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. In contrary to the Applicants' statement, Iijima'983

suggests a command control (See col. 2, line 32 through col. 3, line 45) of an input/output of audio/video

stream data (See col. 2, lines 1-21) to/from a networked apparatus (See Fig. 1 and IEEE 1394 serial bus 7

of Fig. 5) within the breadth of the claimed invention. In other words, Iijima'983, other prior art of record

and/or their combination fully suggest the scope of the claimed invention (See Paragraph 5 of the instant

Office Action as an exemplary claim rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Iijima'983 in view of AAPA). Thus, the Applicants' argument on this point is not persuasive.

Conclusion

11.   Applicants' amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office

action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is

reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from

the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing

date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH

shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action

is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX
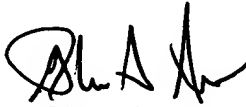
MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should

be directed to Christopher E. Lee whose telephone number is 703-305-5950. The examiner can normally

be reached on 9:00am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark

H. Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this

application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should

be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Christopher E. Lee
Examiner
Art Unit 2189

cel/ *CEL*

Glenn A. Auve
Primary Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100